

PATENT

permitting access to any of the information resources having a specified trust level requirement commensurate with the trust level associated with the authenticated at least one credential.

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(By) B  
25. (Original) A method, as recited in claim 36, further comprising: denying access to any of the information resources having a specified trust level requirement greater than with the trust level associated with the authenticated at least one credential.

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(By) 2  
26. (Original) A method, as recited in claim 36, further comprising: for access to any of the information resources having a specified trust level requirement greater than the trust level associated with the authenticated at least one credential, obtaining at least one additional credential corresponding to a client entity and authenticating the client entity thereby; the at least one additional credential having an associated trust level commensurate with specified trust level requirement.

24

(By) 2  
27. (Original) A method, as recited in claim 36, wherein the credentials types include at least two of passwords, certificates, username/password pairs, one time passwords, biometric indicia, and smart cards.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of providing sign-on in a networked information environment that provides plural trust levels, the method comprising: directing a request for access to a first information resource from an insufficiently authenticated client entity to a credential gathering service; associating a first trust level requirement with the access to the first information resource; selecting from plural credential types, a credential type having an associated trust level commensurate with the first trust level requirement; obtaining a credential of the selected credential type for the client entity; and authenticating the obtained credential.

29. (Original) A method, as recited in claim 28, the method further comprising: